

## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-03 ISO-00 SSO-00 /009 R

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DRAFTED BY AF:PRREAMS:BJR

10/5/73 EXT. 23356

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 198440

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVID D. NEWSOM

FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO USCINCUE COMFAIRMED  
CINCUSNAVEUR COMNAVTRACOM KENITRA COMNAVCOMSTA SIDI YAHYA  
CASABLANCA TANGIER FROM RABAT 04 OCT 73:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 4575

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR MO

SUBJECT: KENITRA COMPLEX

1. DURING DISCUSSION KENITRA ELECTRICAL CONTRACT  
MORNING OCTOBER 4, SECRETARY GENERAL OF FOREIGN MINISTRY  
ALI SKALLI INFORMED ME IN PASSING THAT MINISTRY WAS WORKING  
ON PROPOSAL FOR QTE CONTRAT DE CADRE OR CONTRAT DE BASE UNQTE,  
I.E., BASIC CONTRACT, FOR KENITRA COMPLEX. WHEN I EXPRESSED  
SURPRISE AT THIS NEWS, HE SAID PERHAPS I HAD NOT BEEN  
KEPT INFORMED. SUBJECT HAD BEEN RAISED LAST YEAR  
BY FONMIN BENHIMA WHILE IN THE UNITED STATES AND,  
AS AGREED WITH AMERICANS AT THAT TIME, MOROCCANS  
WERE DRAWING UP PROPOSAL FOR CONTRACT. TELEPHONE REMARKS  
SKALLI MADE ON SUBJECT TO CHIEF OF MINISTRY'S LEGAL  
DIVISION INDICATED THEY HAVE IN MIND PROPOSING A DEFINITE  
PERIOD OF TENURE, BUT I DID NOT PRESS SKALLI FOR DETAILS.

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2. COMMENT: SKALLI PRESUMABLY REFERRING TO CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN FONMIN BENHIMA AND SECRETARY ROGERS ON OCTOBER 11 AND WITH AMBASSADOR ROCKWELL ON NOVEMBER 2, 1972 WHEN HE SAID SUBJECT HAD BEEN RAISED LAST YEAR. AS WE READ THOSE CONVERSATIONS, AND SUBSEQUENT ONES, WHILE MOROCCANS HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THEY WOULD LIKE TO GET RENT FOR FACILITIES AT KENITRA AND SIDI YAHYA, IT WOULD TAKE CONSIDERABLE EMBROIDERING TO MAKE THEM ADD UP TO MUTUAL AGREEMENT THAT MOROCCANS SHOULD MAKE PROPOSALS TO PUT OUR TENURE THERE ON CONTRACTUAL BASIS. NATURE OF CONTRACT GOM CONSIDERING PRESUMABLY WILL BE REVEALED IN FULLNESS OF TIME. I ASSUME, HOWEVER, THAT MOROCCANS WILL PROPOSE LEASE FOR FIXED PERIOD IN RETURN FOR AGREED RENT. IN ORDER TO PROTECT SKALLI, WHO MAY HAVE COMMITTED INDISCRETION IN MENTIONING SUBJECT TO ME, REQUEST THAT MATTER NOT BE RAISED WITH MOROCCANS IN WASHINGTON OR NEW YORK UNTIL WE HAVE SOME FURTHER INDICATION FROM THEM AS TO WHAT THEY HAVE IN MIND. PARKER UNQUOTE RUSH

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